



Abell Improvement Association Newsletter

February 2023

President's Letter

Hello Neighbors,

Let me introduce myself. I'm your newly elected Abell Improvement Association president. I live at 3233 Abell Avenue with my husband, Jim Rubarth-Lay, our 13-year-old doggo, Minnie, and our perspicacious cat, Persy.

We moved to Baltimore in 2014 and were briefly renters in Remington. On the weekends we would walk through surrounding neighborhoods to get a feel for the best area to buy a home. One Sunday we found ourselves headed back home via a lovely street with colors and sounds and a liveliness that immediately enchanted me, and I knew I wanted to be there: Abell Avenue. Four months later, we were. I suspect many of you have similar stories of how you came to be here, and if you are like me, you want it to stay the special neighborhood it is. If you don't know how to get started, there are several annual events coming up where your help is needed.

In May there will be a picnic on the Sunday of Memorial Day weekend (May 28) in the Open Space. It'll be a great way for families to say goodbye to Spring and hello to Summer.

Our fourth annual Porch Prom will take place on June 3. Begun during the height of the pandemic, Porch Prom, to me, reflects perfectly the special spirit that is Abell.

And last but not least, every September the biggest event and our major fundraiser is the Abell Community Street Fair. This year's festival will be held on September 10 and it is an extra special one as the fair will be celebrating its fiftieth anniversary. The tradition began in 1973 as a big community dinner featuring some incredible homemade meatballs. This year is sure to be filled with nostalgia and fun, including live music, vendors, a silent auction, and plenty of food and drink.

In order to make this happen, we need all hands on deck. Read on to learn more about these events, how you can help out, and what else is going on in this fantastic neighborhood.

Anita Rubarth-Lay
anitarl02@gmail.com

Inside:

2023 AIA
Officers

Street Fair,
Porch Prom
Plans

Memorial Day
Weekend
Picnic

Book Festival

Thank You
Jim Anthony



New AIA Officers

At the January 28 General Membership Meeting, a new officer slate was elected:

President - Anita Rubarth-Lay
Vice President - Drew Northrup
Recording Secretary - Andrew Limbong
Treasurer - Bonnie Bessor
Corresponding Secretary - Ruth Baker
Member at large #1 - Lauren DiMartino
Member at large #2 - Dan Walker

Welcome to our new officers!
And many thanks to our outgoing officers for their years of service to the neighborhood.

Missed this year's election but want to get involved? Consider volunteering for one of the AIA's committees. It's a great way to meet your neighbors and learn more about what's going on in the neighborhood. Contact Anita Rubarth-Lay - anitarl02@gmail.com - to volunteer.

The committees include:

Membership/Welcome
Housing
Sanitation
Communications
Open Space Management
Safety
Street Fair
Porch Prom
Film Series

The next AIA Quarterly Membership Meeting will be held in April. Please look for exact date, time and Zoom info on community message boards and media notices next month.

Porch Prom and Street Fair: Volunteers Needed

As noted in the President's message on the first page, planning is underway for both of the neighborhood's annual events where we close the streets and celebrate our community. Make sure to save the dates! Porch Prom will be June 3, 2023, and the Street Fair will be September 10.

Both events are looking for volunteers to help with all aspects of planning and hosting these events. If you're interested in learning more or helping out with either event, please contact the chairs listed below. This is a fun, easy way to get involved and meet your neighbors!

Porch Prom: Lauren Jackson:
laurenjxson@gmail.com

Street Fair: Jane Lewis
(jane.h.lewis@gmail.com) and
Drew Northrup
(atnorthrup@yahoo.com)

New Neighbors

Are you new to Abell? If you're receiving this newsletter and moved to the neighborhood recently, get in touch! Contact Ian Mahoney
(mahoney.iant@gmail.com)

Winter Storm Reminder



The city reminds all property owners or occupants of property that all snow and ice, which has accumulated on the adjacent public sidewalk, must be removed within 3 hours after the end of a snow or ice event unless the snow fall stops between 3 p.m. and 6 a.m., in which case snow must be removed by 11 a.m.

Memorial Weekend Picnic 2023

Mark your calendar for our traditional **Memorial Weekend Picnic** on Sunday, May 28, beginning at 5 p.m. The AIA grilling team will be there to serve up hot dogs and burgers (meat and vegetarian). Bring a beverage, side dish or dessert to share with your neighbors.



Photo: Jaclyn Mahoney

Thank You Newsletter Volunteers

Thank you to all AIA Newsletter delivery persons for your timely work bringing Abell news to the community in the past year:

Jim Anthony
Judy Berlin
Andrea Buchwald
Allison Campbell
Maureen Daly
Jerry Druch
Rosalie Eck
Annette Fallon
Michele Golden
Peter Gottlieb
Ed Hargadon
Janet Kahoe
Adwoa Hanson-Hall
Michael Klima
Val Kuciauskas
Yvonne Mathews
Paul & Carlene Moscatt
Arlene Ogurick
Didon Pachner
Brooke Petruzzelli
Susanne Riveles
Jo Ann Robinson
Julie Neale Taylor
Michael Treadway
Jonathan Wetmiller

Thank you to Jim Anthony

Best wishes and a huge thank you to our dear friend and neighbor, Jim Anthony, who recently moved from the neighborhood and his home on Abell Ave. Dr. Anthony moved to Charles Village in 1972 when he began teaching "History of Music" at Towson University. He spent decades volunteering in the community and occupied many different positions on the executive committee, most recently corresponding and recording secretary. Jim is known in the neighborhood for his kindness and would often be found contributing to the neighborhood community events, offering his home for community meetings, and making an incredible lasagna. After several brief hospitalizations, he has now moved to his new apartment in a senior living community near Baltimore. He has plans to be an occasional guest at some of our future events. We are looking forward to seeing him.

Recently, some members of the neighborhood went to visit Jim and present him with a gift, a small plaque affixed to a brick, to thank him for his years of service and dedication to the neighborhood. This is what Jim had to say:



"I want to thank all of you for the wonderful brick gift you recently gave me for my years of working with AIA. I will treasure it for the rest of life. I also want to say that I will continue to retain my membership in AIA and attend as many events as possible.

Most sincerely,
Jim Anthony"



If you missed out on getting one of the amazing t-shirts from last year's street fair because they sold out so quickly, good news! There will be another batch. You can pre-order one here:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LWDHZ27>. Please try to have your pre-orders submitted by March 15, 2023. This will be the last run of this purple color.

Join the AIA!

Becoming a member of the AIA costs just \$10 a year. Your contribution helps to cover basic operating costs, like printing newsletters, costs of community events, Open Space maintenance, initial Street Fair costs, and more. (You don't need to be a member to participate in social events or to receive the newsletter, but your support is appreciated.)

Learn more and sign up via the AIA's website:

<https://www.abellimprovement.org/membership>

- Bulletin Board -

Officers Contact List

President

Anita Rubarth-Lay
anitarl02@gmail.com

Vice President

Andrew Northrup
atnorthrup@yahoo.com

Treasurer

Bonnie Bessor
412 E. 31st Street
bbessor@gmail.com

Recording Secretary

Andrew Limbong
andrewlimbong@gmail.com

Corresponding Secretary

Ruth Baker
lunarnacl5487@gmail.com

Members-at-Large:

Lauren DiMartino
laurenadimartino@icloud.com

Dan Walker

doctrrock@gmail.com

CVCBD Representative:
open



SUPPORTING INDIVIDUALS, EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES

COMING EVENTS:

- February 25, noon – 3: Community resource fair
- March 2, 4:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.: Dinner at Gertrude's -- percentage of proceeds go to the community center.
- April 22, Noon - 3 p.m.: Earth Day Event.
- July 5 - August 11: Community Center summer camp

<http://www.29thstreetcommunitycenter.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/29thStreetCommunityCenter/>

**WAVERLY
BOOK FESTIVAL
2023**

APRIL 28-30

WAVERLYBOOKFESTIVAL.COM

BRINGING TO YOU BY PEABODY HEIGHTS, RED EMMA'S, & WAVERLY MAIN STREET

A collaboration with Waverly Main Street, Red Emma's Bookstore Coffee-house and Peabody Heights Brewery, LLC
Highlighting:
Urban Reads Bookstore, Normal's Books and Records, Enoch Pratt Free Library and more

Sign up to volunteer at bit.ly/wbfolunteer

For more information, check out: <https://www.waverlybookfestival.com/>.

Trash & Recycling Schedule



**Trash every Tuesday
Recycling every other
Thursday**

Trash may be put out after 6 p.m. the night before, by 6 a.m. the day of pick-up.

Retrieve bins promptly after pick-up.

1st ever Waverly Book Festival
A fun-filled explosion of all things literary, food and beer

If you have items to contribute to the newsletter, please send them to Ian Mahoney (mahoney.iant@gmail.com) and Shelley Treadway (sbtreadway@gmail.com). The remaining 2023 issues are slated to go out in May, August, and November. If you miss the deadline, get in touch anyway! And to share information on the AIA website, Facebook page or message boards, contact Shelley Treadway at sbtreadway@gmail.com.

Deadlines for newsletter submissions:

April 17	Spring Issue
July 17	Street Fair Issue
October 17	Holiday Issue

Volunteer newsletter delivery persons are needed. If you can spare 30 minutes of your time, four to six times each year, please contact sbtreadway@aol.com.